



Penny Bernard Schaber

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 57th ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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\$1.8 Million in Critical Worker Training Dollars Approved for Fox Valley

Madison – Rep. Bernard Schaber (D-Appleton) highlighted today the disbursement of \$1.8 million in vital worker training dollars by the State Legislature's Joint Finance Committee (JFC) for Fox Valley. The critical resources, part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), will provide much needed employment and reemployment services to help young people and working families in Wisconsin overcome the worst national economic downturn in generations.

"Putting people back to work is critical for the health of our working families and our state's economy," said Rep. Bernard Schaber. "The workers of Fox Valley will benefit greatly from these crucial investments by gaining the skills and training needed for the jobs of the future."

The JFC-authorized recovery funds will be disbursed through local DWD Job Centers and a number of local worker training programs by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. These worker retraining dollars will provide special assistance for low-income youth, adults, and displaced workers. Participants in the various programs will be able to access skill assessments, job search and placement assistance, information on unemployment claims, and job training and retraining.

The approval and investment of these vital worker retaining resources comes on the same day that new jobless figures from the Department of Workforce Development show the unemployment rate [has](#) increased in March to 9.4% -- a 4.4% increase from the same time last year.

"We must continue to find ways to boost our economy and put people back to work, and helping workers gain more skills is a great way to do that," said Rep. Bernard Schaber. "In order for these dollars to do the greatest good, we all must join together to get working families the help they need as quickly and efficiently as possible. I will continue to work with local officials in my community as additional workforce development funds are released to do just that."

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